

## Resources / Friends of ABC

Anarchist People of Color  
c/o Ernesto Aguilar  
PO Box 667233  
Houston, TX 77266-7233

Battle Cry of Innocence  
PO Box 672  
Jasper, IN 47547

\* Books for Prisoners Crew  
Monkey's Retreat Bookstore  
PO Box 19065  
Cincinnati, OH 45219  
[www.freewebs.com/books4prisoners](http://www.freewebs.com/books4prisoners)  
[books4prisoners@hotmail.com](mailto:books4prisoners@hotmail.com)

Chicago Books to Women Prisoners  
*Serving Women Prisoners in Illinois,  
Indiana, Ohio, Mississippi & Florida*  
c/o Beyond Media Education  
7013 N. Glenwood Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60626  
<http://chicagobwp.org>  
[jackslowriver@yahoo.com](mailto:jackslowriver@yahoo.com)

Break the Chains  
PO Box 12122  
Eugene, OR 97440  
[www.breakthechains.net](http://www.breakthechains.net)  
[breakthechains02@yahoo.com](mailto:breakthechains02@yahoo.com)  
women's committee:  
[breakthechains03@yahoo.com](mailto:breakthechains03@yahoo.com)

California Anarchist Prisoner  
Solidarity (CAPS)  
PO Box 22449  
Oakland, CA 94609  
[caps@riseup.net](mailto:caps@riseup.net)

Human Action Community Org.  
16028 S. Halstead Street  
Harvey, IL 60426

Prisoner's Action Coalition  
PO Box 151  
Fennimore, WI 53809

Jericho Movement - Boston  
PO Box 1057  
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130  
[www.jerichoboston.org](http://www.jerichoboston.org)  
[jericho\\_boston@yahoo.com](mailto:jericho_boston@yahoo.com)

Midwest Books to Prisoners  
c/o Quimby's Bookstore  
1573 N. Milwaukee Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60622

MPLU Support  
Leemputstraat 29  
2600 Berchem  
Belgium  
[www.mplu-support.tk](http://www.mplu-support.tk)  
[info@mplu-support.tk](mailto:info@mplu-support.tk)

Prison Book Program (Boston)  
c/o Lucy Parsons Bookstore  
1306 Hancock Street, Suite 100  
Quincy, MA 02169  
617-423-3298 (no collect calls)  
[www.prisonbookprogram.org](http://www.prisonbookprogram.org)  
[info@prisonbookprogram.org](mailto:info@prisonbookprogram.org)

Prison Poster Project  
PO Box 71357  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Red Heart Warrior Society  
PO Box 4362  
Allentown, PA 18105

Tarantula Distribution  
818 SW 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, PMB #1337  
Portland, OR 97204

Voices in the Wilderness  
1460 W. Carmen Ave., 2<sup>nd</sup> fl.  
Chicago, IL 60640  
[www.vitw.org](http://www.vitw.org)  
[info@vitw.org](mailto:info@vitw.org)

\* The Books for Prisoners Crew  
sends free books and booklets to  
prisoners ONLY in Ohio, Indiana,  
and three Texas units: Ramsey I,  
Polunsky, and Gatesville.



## ANARCHIST BLACK CROSS NETWORK NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2005

On the weekend of June 10-12<sup>th</sup>, 2005, members of the Anarchist Black Cross Network met in Lawrence, KS for a weekend of discussion, networking and growth. In attendance were members of Boston ABC, Chicago ABC, Houston ABC and Lawrence ABC. Together we drafted a new mission statement, as well as passed the following proposals.

### NEW MISSION STATEMENT OF THE ABC NETWORK of the US

ABCN is a network of anarchist prison abolitionists. Autonomous ABC groups support prisoners, both social and political, as well as our comrades in resistance. Our intent is to resist, inside and out, global systems of repression. Through solidarity work with other groups and the ongoing work to help serve the needs of our locked up brothers and sisters, we seek to overcome fear, ignorance, and apathy. Only then can people become empowered and contribute their talents to the struggle. It's not about charity, but rather genuine mutual aid.

### NETWORK NEWSLETTER

- ABCN newsletter changed to abbreviated format put out quarterly. Front would be the ABCN mission statement, guts of it updates and each collective's focus back current listing of network chapters and friends and resources. Target length for each group submission: approx. 500 words.
- Each collective agrees to bottom line a network newsletter once a year. Issues will be released the first of February, May, August, and November. Deadlines will be 2 weeks prior to publication date. Publication schedule:

August 2005: Houston  
November 2005: South Chicago  
February 2006: Boston  
May 2006: Lawrence

### NEW ABC NETWORK MEMBERS

- The ABC Network will provide groups interested in affiliating with the Network a checklist of things the group should have/do, including:
  1. Agree with and abide by the ABCN Mission Statement
  2. Post Office Box/Address (stress need for PO box)
  3. Contact phone number of at least one member of the group (extreme care will be taken with phone numbers and they will be ONLY for internal communication within network)



4. At least one member of the group on ABCN e-mail list
5. Contribute a group update to each quarterly ABCN newsletter
6. Attendance of at least one member at annual ABCN meetings
7. If an ABC group dissolves/relocates, it must notify the network & prisoners, as well as write a statement for the ABCN newsletter.

- When we receive e-mails from people interested in the ABCN, Tania will reply with an e-mail including information about the network. She will send a copy of the e-mail from the interested person to the ABCN list. Chantel will be the follow-up person for anyone who has additional questions, comments, etc.
- If an ABC group is not in contact with the Network (via newsletter updates or otherwise) for six months, they are no longer considered a part of the Network. An attempt will be made to contact group and find out status. If no contact can be made, the network will give notice in next newsletter that group is out of touch and is no longer part of the network. The ABC chapter responsible for publishing the newsletter in which another group misses their second update is responsible for trying to contact the group that is out of touch.
- There is no minimum number of members required for an ABC group. A group of one that meets all criteria is considered a part of the ABCN.
- When inviting groups to affiliate with the ABCN, it should be made clear that a group does not have to have "ABC" in its name in order to be part of the network.

## CAMPAIGN ENDORSEMENTS

- If a network decision needs to be made, a proposal should be made on the ABCN e-mail list. If there are no disapprovals within 2 weeks, proposal is approved. Proposal must clearly explain what support entails.

## ABC NETWORK of the U.S

- Recognizing that there are ABC chapters all over the world, we acknowledged our present network is one of chapters within the US, and that we must be clear that decisions made at gatherings, on the list, etc. reflect those of the affiliated network members within the US. We added U. S. to the header of our mission statement to reflect this acknowledgement.



## Minneapolis ABC

Aside from printing and keeping up with prisoner requests for literature and pen-pals, we are focusing on helping out a lot of local activists. We have aided activists involved in direct action against the Minnesota-based Alliantech Systems (one of the largest manufacturers of weapons including depleted uranium shells). There are weekly protests at their headquarters and often acts of civil disobedience. We try to keep one of our members in the group for mass acts of civil disobedience. Recent projects include raising the awareness of citizens of the West-metro area of Alliantech.

We also provide printing for our sister group the Council for Concerned Citizens. They are a CrimethInc type group involved in projects ranging from an anti-Coca Cola Campaign for Coke's violations of human rights in Columbia ([www.killercoke.org](http://www.killercoke.org)). They have gotten a lot of local high school students to get active and get Coke products out of their schools as well as taking other measures to raise awareness of consumption and capitalism. They have also been involved in anti-recruitment campaigns including anything from street theater in front of recruitment centers to dressing up as military recruiters and telling kids the realities of war. We also keep in loose contact with other activist cells in surrounding cities and states (Iowa) with ranging projects. Thankfully, activist groups are getting smarter and arrests are not too often so involvement is a minimum. Our group membership has been sporadic, and the group's work has often been dependent on one or two members. We are hoping that we can generate interest in the group through workshops and future events. Keep up the good fight.

Minneapolis ABC  
PO Box 47871 / Plymouth, MN 55447  
[Ryan\\_abcn@yahoo.com](mailto:Ryan_abcn@yahoo.com)

## Women's ABC

WABC-Women's Anarchist Black Cross located in Portland Oregon, is a small collection of Portlanders who are fed up with the abuses of local law enforcement. We are dedicated to the assistance of prisoners in general. We would like to see humane and equal treatment of everyone, and the eradication of the use of confidential informants by law enforcement. We believe that by gathering and sharing information about "information dealers", we can help keep each other informed about hazards in our midst, and make purchasing evidence ineffective in the war on drugs, and crime in general. We feel that by taking "snitches" out of the process, justice will be better served for all. One small step for our right to privacy.

WABC will be creating a webpage designed to post the newest info available for people who want to know, or want to share. We hope there will be an interest in exposing these traitors and forcing prosecutors to do their jobs, rather than intimidate people into plea bargains. Let's get back to "innocent until PROVEN guilty!"

[wabc@mutualaid.org](http://wabc@mutualaid.org) / Website coming soon!



per week and usually get the literature sent out within two weeks. Prisoners interested in receiving free reading material should write for a literature list.

Another way we get reading material to prisoners is to hold an ongoing book drive to collect books for the local jail. Since April, LABC has donated over 180 books to the Douglas County (Kansas) jail. (Note: LABC does not send books to state prisons or to jails outside Douglas County.)

At the ABC Network meeting, members discussed ways to do more support for women prisoners. LABC has contacted several people on the outside who do support for women prisoners, including two books-to-prisoners projects that specialize in getting books to female prisoners. Our literature distro will soon be included on the resource list put out by Women's Prison Book Project, and we are working on getting information about the distro in the upcoming issue of Tenacious: Writing from Women in Prison.

We are planning events to coincide with the August 13 march on Washington, DC by Family Members and Friends of People Incarcerated. We have scheduled three movie showings (22/8: The Jeff Luers Story, the new MOVE documentary, and System Failure) at three different locations on three different nights. We are also planning a teach-in on issues of incarceration and a rally on Saturday, August 13.

We are also planning to host a fundraiser for Rob Los Ricos (Thaxton) during the Raise a Ruckus for Rob weekend of November 11-13.

LABC is always looking for ways to fund our projects. Our most recent fundraiser event was a raffle and Mardi Gras party, complete with free vegan jambalaya and a two-piece Zydeco band. We also sent out an e-mail call for support asking people to get involved in prisoner support work in whatever way they are able. We always gladly accept donations of stamps and money.

Lawrence ABC Publisher and Distributor  
PO Box 1483 / Lawrence, KS 66044  
[abc.lawrence@riseup.net](mailto:abc.lawrence@riseup.net)

## ABC Legal Services

ABC Legal Services held a dual-political prisoner benefit with Monkeywrench Books, Friday, June 10, 2005, for Alvaro & Jeff 'Free' Luers. ABC Legal Services works with Texas' social prisoners ( yes that's right ! ) at the Alford, Polunsky, and the 'Ham' Eastham Units, on many standard abusive environmental issues. Currently with Syd Byrd, Coffield Unit, on a project to publicize Isolation-Imprisonment. Also, Alvaro Luna Hernandez' U.S. Supreme Court petition in review 6/23/05 as I write. Supports the MPLU.

Twitch - Entropy, ABC Legal Services  
2900 La Fayette Avenue, #2 / Austin, Texas 78722  
512-478-7666  
[twitchon@hotmail.com](mailto:twitchon@hotmail.com)

## Boston ABC

Boston ABC has two more legal victories to announce.

June 27, 2005 was the date that marked the official end of the legal fallout after the DNC. Boston ABC is proud to announce that Nick Giannone has been found 'not guilty' of assault and battery upon BPD Superintendent Dunford during the Causeway Street police riot. Nick was the last defendant facing charges as result of arrests made during the week of the DNC itself.

July 11, 2005 marked the end of legal fallout after the March 20 police attack on a peaceful demonstration signifying the anniversary of the US invasion of Iraq. Michael Long, the last M20 defendant, accepted a continuance without a finding. The rest of the M20 defendants had previously accepted continuances on their charges.

The Lafayette Eight are still in the pretrial process. For those unfamiliar with this case, it involves anti-DNC organizers who were targeted during a low-key community cleanup operation organized by the now defunct Boston Homes Not Jails. Two of the original eight were juveniles and quickly saw their charges dropped. The remaining six however have been in and out of court for well over a year now. The District Attorney's Office has attempted to question the citizenship status of the defendants and has proclaimed their intent to subvert due process of the court as the political affiliations of the defendants is said to create a public safety risk. Additionally, one defendant was recently denied entry to Canada due to the pending felony charges. The Lafayette Eight are now waiting for the court to rule on their dismissal hearing. Although an outright dismissal is not expected, they are expecting some concessions in their favor. The decision is due to be announced on July 27, 2005.

Due to fundraising, the Community Warchest is back to the level achieved prior to posting bail for the M20 arrests. This enabled us to wire \$200 down to Philadelphia during the Bio Democracy Convergence to help cover the cost of bailing out those arrested. M20 proved that all of our fundraising efforts can be wiped clean in one day, and thus we seek to continue building our Warchest in order to remain one step a head of the state.

Boston ABC has recently learned of the establishment of a new ABC collective in Massachusetts and is eagerly waiting to connect with our new regional comrades. We are looking forward to furthering the mission of the ABCN by building a strong relationship with the Lowell and Lawrence ABC in order to extend the terrain covered by ABC support beyond the greater Boston area.

Additionally, half of Boston ABC will be relocating to Tennessee next year and will be founding Liberty ABC in May 2006. The ABCN continues to grow...

Boston ABC  
PMB 258, 198 Tremont Street / Boston, MA 02116  
[abc-boston@hush.com](mailto:abc-boston@hush.com)  
[www.baamboston.org/abc.html](http://www.baamboston.org/abc.html)



## Chicago ABC

This year, we have continued our anarchist-driven support work in our usual manner. On a daily basis, letters are answered, connections are made, zines are sent out and the meticulous, behind-the-scenes tasks are continuously handled. Many new zines were formatted, edited, published and distributed, as well, on an ongoing basis, prioritized by importance, as best we can do. Several projects have been completed, many more are in various stages and more will surely be dealt with, as they come to our attention.

More and more, new people have found their way to us, adding immensely to our knowledge and slowly increasing network of activity. As well, several trips were taken these past few months, which I'll outline next. In March, the Solidarity Conference took place in Cincinnati and we hooked up with the Cincinnati Books 4 Prisoners Crew there and managed to have four full tables between us, situated at a perfect location – at the entrance to the room with all the food!

In April, we participated (and helped organize) a strong prison abolition forum up at Beloit College. Jack from the Books To Women Prisoners project, here in Chicago, joined JoNina Abron, a longtime activist/former editor of the Black Panther Paper, Randy Ryder, executive director of Fresh Start, transitional housing of recently released prisoners and Anthony Rayson of Chicago ABC, for a 2 ½ hour forum sponsored by the Women Studies class there. Then, from May 20-22, we traveled to Montreal for the huge Anarchist Book Fair. We tabled there and did a well-attended workshop with the Montreal ABCF folks. We flooded the place with prisoner artwork and prisoner zines!

In June, Anthony attended the ABC Network gathering in Lawrence and we attended and tabled the benefit show for the Midwest Books to Prisoners, which garnered \$800. Hopefully, before long, a benefit will be organized for Chicago ABC & South Chicago ABC Zine Distro.

Shortly, a detailed list of the collection of prison-related CD's, DVD's & audio tapes will be sent, as Chicago ABC is responsible for this audio/video library for ABCN.

The hard work put in these last few months is being paid back tenfold by the motivated response from conscious prisoners – both from new and more familiar comrades. We can tell and feel that our solidarity-minded, mutual-aid driven efforts are finding their way to more and more people. We are confident that such work will create the necessary "chain reaction" effect and new waves of dedicated anarchists will be enthused into this type of vital activity. We invite any and all to contact us at:

Chicago ABC /  
South Chicago ABC Zine Distro  
PO Box 721 / Homewood, IL 60430  
[chicagoabc@hotmail.com](mailto:chicagoabc@hotmail.com)  
[www.chicagoabc.org](http://www.chicagoabc.org)

## Houston ABC

Greetings from the gulag state! Houston ABC works primarily to educate and radicalize captives, while facilitating ongoing prisoner struggles against the prison industrial complex. The bulk of our work consists of sending literature and correspondence to social prisoners, as well as supporting several political prisoners.

Aside from getting radical information into prisons, we aim to get the stories of injustice behind the walls out to the general public, by publishing prisoners in their own words. This is done through Carl Horne's *Captive Voices*, which we now publish, as well as our own periodic newsletter. Computer problems have caused us to miss several issues of our newsletter, however we hope to have a new issue out this Fall. Please write if you wish to be added to our mailing list, or if you have a contribution which you feel is relevant.

Most recently we have worked with the Houston Global Awareness Collective and other community members to support 16 people arrested at the annual Haliburton shareholder's meeting in May. While several arrestees were initially facing felony charges, all charges have now been dropped.

To better raise "free world" awareness, HABC is setting up an email list to provide action alerts to our local community. Participants can sign up to receive weekly calls for action, with information on how to assist various captives in their struggles, as well as those facing incarceration. Since our work has historically focused mainly on prisoners, we are exploring avenues through which to engage our community, as well as raise awareness of the growing prison industrial complex.

Solidarity,  
Houston ABC  
PO Box 667614 / Houston, TX 77266-7614  
[houstonabc2@hotmail.com](mailto:houstonabc2@hotmail.com)

## Lawrence ABC

From June 10-12, Lawrence ABC hosted the yearly ABC network meeting. Nine members from four chapters (Houston, Lawrence, Boston, and South Chicago) attended three sessions of decision-making meetings and found time to socialize and have fun.

In July, we decided that our collective is currently too small to publish our newsletter, *The Abolitionist*, and run our literature distribution. We suspended publication of *The Abolitionist* and sent postcards to everyone on our mailing list to alert them of this fact. Back issues of *The Abolitionist* are available through our literature distro. Our group is still interested in publishing work by anarchist, anti-authoritarian, radical and revolutionary prisoners. Prisoners whose writing or artwork fits those categories should contact us so we can communicate on a one-to-one basis about possibly publishing such work.

In 2005, we have sent out over 800 free booklets, zines, pamphlets, etc. to prisoners across the nation through the LABC lit distro. We receive between 10 and 30 requests